CLAIMS

1. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information

5 is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing apparatus of the present invention for writing the digital information into the content storage medium, comprising:

a data encrypting section that encrypts

10 identification data using the identifier or information related to the identifier as a key for encryption; and

an encrypted data storage section that stores the encrypted identification data in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital

15 information.

2. A content processing apparatus that writes digital information in a detachable content storage medium in an information management system for managing content that is the digital information as a file on the content

20 storage medium and allowing use of the digital information only in an environment having a specific identifier, comprising:

an identifier encrypting section that encrypts the identifier or information related to the identifier using

25 specific encrypting means; and

an encrypted identifier storage section that stores the encrypted identifier or the encrypted information

related to the identifier in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital information.

3.   A content processing apparatus that writes digital information in a detachable content storage medium in an information management system for managing content that is the digital information as a file on the content storage medium and allowing use of the digital information only in an environment having a specific identifier, comprising:

a unique data storage section that stores identification data in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital information, the identification data different from the specific identifier and unique to the environment providing the specific identifier.

4.   The content processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a value or a name designated by a user.

5.   The content processing apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

an initial value set section that randomly sets an initial value to be used as the value or the name in a state that the user does not designate the value or the name.

6.   The content processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

a user designated value encrypting section that

encrypts the value or the name using the information related to the identifier,

wherein in the unique data storage section, the value or the name stored in the content storage medium is

5 encrypted by the user designated value encrypting section.

7. The content processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the environment providing the specific identifier is an environment specified by

10 the identifier indicative of a contract with specific service.

8. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information

15 is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing apparatus of the present invention for reading the digital information from the content storage medium, comprising:

an encrypted data read section that reads encrypted

20 data stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted data determining section which decodes the read encrypted data using the identifier of an environment of the apparatus or information related to

25 the identifier of the environment of the apparatus, and determines whether or not the decoded data agrees with identification data.

9.   In an information management system where digitized
information of content is managed as a file on a detachable
content storage medium and use of the digital information
is allowed only in an environment providing a specific
5   identifier, a content processing apparatus of the present
invention for reading the digital information from the
content storage medium, comprising:

an encrypted identifier read section that reads
encrypted   identifier   obtained   by   encrypting   the
10   identifier   or   encrypted   information   obtained   by
encrypting information related to the identifier, each
stored   in   association   with   the   file   of   the   digital
information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted identifier determining section which
15   decodes   the   read   encrypted   identifier   or   encrypted
information in specific decoding means of an environment
of the apparatus, and determines whether or not decoded
data agrees with the identifier of the apparatus or the
information related to the identifier.

20   10.   A content processing apparatus that reads digital
information from a detachable content storage medium in
an information management system for managing content
that is the digital information as a file on the content
storage medium and allowing use of the digital information
25   only in an environment having a specific identifier,
comprising:

a unique data read section that reads unique data

stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

a unique data determining section which determines whether or not the read unique data agrees with identification data unique to an environment of the apparatus.

11. The content processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a user designated value designated by a user, and the unique data determining section determines whether or not the unique data read from the content storage medium agrees with the user designated value stored in the environment of the apparatus.

12. The content processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the unique data determining section decodes the read unique data using information related to the identifier of the environment of the apparatus, and determines whether or not the decoded unique data agrees with the user designated value stored in the environment of the apparatus.

13. The content processing apparatus according to any one of claims 8 to 12, wherein the environment providing the specific identifier is an environment specified by the identifier indicative of a contract with specific service.

14. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable

content storage medium and use of the digital information
is allowed only in a specific environment providing a
specific identifier, a content storage medium of the
present invention has a constitution whereby, wherein
5   identification data encrypted using the identifier or
information related to the identifier as an encryption
key is stored in association with the file of the digital
information in the content storage medium.

15.   In an information management system where digitized
10   information of content is managed as a file on a detachable
content storage medium and use of the digital information
is allowed only in an environment providing a specific
identifier, a content storage medium of the present
invention has a constitution whereby, wherein encrypted
15   identifier obtained by encrypting the identifier using
specific encrypting means or encrypted information
obtained by encrypting information related to the
identifier using specific encrypting means is stored in
association with the file of the digital information in
20   the content storage medium.

16.   In an information management system where digitized
information of content is managed as a file on a detachable
content storage medium and use of the digital information
is allowed only in an environment providing a specific
25   identifier, a content storage medium of the present
invention has a constitution whereby,, wherein
identification data is stored in association with the

file of the digital information in the content storage medium, the identification data different from the specific identifier and unique to the environment providing the specific identifier.

5 17. The content storage medium according to claim 16, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a value or a name designated by a user.

18. The content storage medium according to claim 17, wherein as the value or the name designated by the user,

10 a random value is stored as an initial value in a state that the user does not designate the value or the name.

19. The content storage medium according to claim 17, wherein the value or the name is encrypted using information related to the identifier.

15 20. The content storage medium according to any one of claims 14 to 19, wherein the identifier is data indicative of a contract with specific service.

21. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable

20 content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing method of the present invention for writing the digital information in the content storage medium, comprising:

25 a data encrypting step of encrypting identification data using the identifier or information related to the identifier as a key for encryption; and

an encrypted data storage step of storing the encrypted identification data in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital information.

5   22.   In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing method of the present

10   invention for writing the digital information in the content storage medium, comprising:

an identifier encrypting step of encrypting the identifier or information related to the identifier using specific encrypting means; and

15   an encrypted identifier storage step of storing the encrypted identifier or the encrypted information related to the identifier in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital information.

23.   In an information management system where digitized

20   information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing method of the present invention for writing the digital information in the

25   content storage medium, comprising:

a unique data storage step of storing identification data in the content storage medium in association with

the file of the digital information, the identification data different from the specific identifier and unique to the environment providing the specific identifier.

24. The content processing method according to claim 23, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a value or a name designated by a user.

25. The content processing method according to claim 24, further comprising:

an initial value set step of randomly setting an initial value to be used as the value or the name in a state that the user does not designate the value or the name.

26. The content processing method according to claim 24, further comprising:

a user designated value encrypting step of encrypting the value or the name using information related to the identifier,

wherein in the unique data storage step, the value or the name stored in the content storage medium is encrypted in the user designated value encrypting step.

27. The content processing method according to any one of claims 21 to 26, wherein the environment providing the specific identifier is an environment specified by the identifier indicative of a contract with specific service.

28. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable

content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing method of the present invention for reading the digital information from the

5   content storage medium, comprising:

an encrypted data read step of reading encrypted data stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted data determining step of decoding the

10   read encrypted data using the identifier of the environment of the method or information related to the identifier of the environment of the method, and determining whether or not the decoded data agrees with identification data.

15   29.   A content processing method for reading digital information from a detachable content storage medium in an information management system for managing content that is the digital information as a file on the content storage medium and allowing use of the digital information

20   only in an environment having a specific identifier, comprising:

an encrypted identifier read step of reading encrypted identifier obtained by encrypting the identifier or encrypted information obtained by

25   encrypting information related to the identifier, each stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted identifier determining step of decoding the read encrypted identifier or encrypted information in specific decoding means of an environment of the method, and determining whether or not decoded

5 data agrees with the identifier of the method or the information related to the identifier.

30. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information

10 is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing method of the present invention for reading the digital information from the content storage medium, comprising:

a unique data read step of reading unique data stored

15 in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

a unique data determining step of determining whether or not the read unique data agrees with identification data unique to the environment of the

20 method.

31. The content processing method according to claim 30, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a user designated value designated by a user, and in the unique data determining step, it is

25 determined whether or not the unique data read from the content storage medium agrees with the user designated value stored in the environment of the method.

32. The content processing method according to claim 31, wherein in the unique data determining step, the read unique data is decoded using information related to the identifier of the environment of a read source, and it is determined whether or not the decoded unique data agrees with the user designated value stored in the environment of the read source.

33. The content processing method according to any one of claims 28 to 32, wherein the environment providing the specific identifier is an environment specified by the identifier indicative of a contract with specific service.

34. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing program of the present invention for writing the digital information in the content storage medium, comprising:

a data encrypting step of encrypting identification data using the identifier or information related to the identifier as a key for encryption; and

an encrypted data storage step of storing the encrypted identification data in the content storage medium in association with the file of the digital information.

35. A content processing program for writing digital

information in a detachable content storage medium used
in an information management system for managing content
that is the digital information as a file on the content
storage medium and allowing use of the digital information
5   only in an environment having a specific identifier,
comprising:

an identifier encrypting step of encrypting the
identifier or information related to the identifier using
specific encrypting means; and

10   an encrypted identifier storage step of storing the
encrypted identifier or the encrypted information related
to the identifier in the content storage medium in
association with the file of the digital information.

36.   In an information management system where digitized
15   information of content is managed as a file on a detachable
content storage medium and use of the digital information
is allowed only in an environment providing a specific
identifier, a content processing program of the present
invention for writing the digital information in the
20   content storage medium, comprising:

a unique data storage step of storing identification
data in the content storage medium in association with
the file of the digital information, the identification
data different from the specific identifier and unique
25   to the environment providing the specific identifier.

37.   The content processing program according to claim
36, wherein the identification data unique to the

environment is a value or a name designated by a user.

38. The content processing program according to claim 37, further comprising:

an initial value set step of randomly setting an

5 initial value to be used as the value or the name in a state that the user does not designate the value or the name.

39. The content processing program according to claim 37, further comprising:

10 · a user designated value encrypting step of encrypting the value or the name using information related to the identifier,

wherein in the unique data storage step, the value or the name stored in the content storage medium is encrypted

15 in the user designated value encrypting step.

40. The content processing program according to any one of claims 34 to 39, wherein the environment providing the specific identifier is an environment specified by the identifier indicative of a contract with specific

20 service.

41. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific

25 identifier, a content processing program of the present invention for reading the digital information from the content storage medium, comprising:

an encrypted data read step of reading encrypted data stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted data determining step of decoding the

5 read encrypted data using the identifier of the environment of the program or the information related to the identifier of the environment of the program, and determining whether or not the decoded data agrees with identification data.

10 42. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing program of the present

15 invention for reading the digital information from the content storage medium, comprising:

an encrypted identifier read step of reading encrypted identifier obtained by encrypting the identifier or encrypted information obtained by

20 encrypting information related to the identifier, each stored in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

an encrypted identifier determining step of decoding the read encrypted identifier or encrypted

25 information in specific decoding means of the environment of the program, and determining whether or not decoded data agrees with the identifier of the program or the

information related to the identifier of the apparatus.

43. In an information management system where digitized information of content is managed as a file on a detachable content storage medium and use of the digital information

5   is allowed only in an environment providing a specific identifier, a content processing program of the present invention for reading the digital information from the content storage medium, comprising:

a unique data read step of reading unique data stored

10   in association with the file of the digital information in the content storage medium; and

a unique data determining step of determining whether or not the read unique data agrees with identification data unique to the environment of the

15   program.

44. The content processing program according to claim 43, wherein the identification data unique to the environment is a user designated value designated by a user, and in the unique data determining step, it is

20   determined whether or not the unique data read from the content storage medium agrees with the user designated value stored in the environment of the program.

45. The content processing program according to claim 44, wherein in the unique data determining step, the read

25   unique data is decoded using information related to the identifier of the environment of a read source, and it is determined whether or not the decoded unique data agrees

with the user designated value stored in the environment

of the read source.

46.   The content processing program according to any

one of claims 41 to 45, wherein the environment providing

5   the specific identifier is an environment specified by

the identifier indicative of a contract with specific

service.